Total Force Integration:

Integrating Nursing Assets

Group #5

Current System

- Over several decades the military nursing corps has evolved based on individual service needs.
- Duplication of nursing services through the branches has been identified:
  - Multiple training courses (i.e ICU, PEDS, OR, ER, etc.....)
- Administrative issues:
  - Documentation varies among branches
  - Different Information Technology Systems
  - Different equipment (monitors, etc.)

→ Making it more difficult for nurses to get on line

21st Century Warfare

- Rapid movements
- Light, mobile units with smaller forces
- Multi-theatre operations

In the face of a nursing shortage….and as warfare evolves, is nursing keeping pace?

Examples of Force Integration

- Landstuhl, Germany: Tri-service presence in an “Army” Medical Facility
- USUHS *(Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences)*
- JRTC *(Joint Readiness Training Center)*
- C4 *(Combat Care Casualty Course)*
- CJ Reddy Leadership Conference

Lesson Learned From Joint Ventures

Effective force integration leads to maximizing expertise and pulling resources to complete a common mission.

Implementing a Multi-service Program Within the Military

Standardize Military Nursing:

1. Training – attend same courses
   - Why have multi-service Nursing OBC?
   - Results in standardized training & collegiality
2. Same charting system
   - *DOD forms not Army/Navy/Air Force*
3. Sharing practice guidelines
4. Cross service assignments

Utilization of Reserve Forces

- Reserve nurses comprise the bulk of DOD forces
- Current system of “Drill Halls” are out-dated models and inefficient use of skills.
  - Flex drilling:
    - *Allows flexibility → relieving AC staffing*
    - *Promotes integration with AC*
  - Require civilian skill to be the MOS of record
  - Better utilization of civilian skills
  - Adequate training prior to deployment

Benefits of Resource Integration

1. Cost containment
   - Eliminates duplication
   - Increases efficiency
2. Standardized care
   - Ensures basic level within DOD
3. Shared resources
   - Increases nursing assets to support mission

Summary

Military nursing care is a complex, often redundant system.

By standardizing care and implementing joint training, nursing assets can be utilized to contain costs and maximize strengths while maintaining individual Corps identity.